MY EXPERIENCES WHILE OUT OF MY BODY

CORA L. V. RICHMOND

PART I AND PART II.

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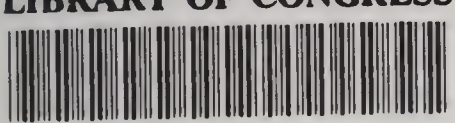

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MY EXPERIENCES

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AND

MY RETURN AFTER MANY DAYS

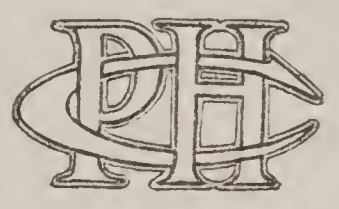
BY

REV. CORA L. V. RICHMOND

PART II.

AND SECOND EDITION OF

PART I.



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Dedication

PRIMARILY

TO MY HEAVENLY GUIDES:

Those Teachers and Inspirers who, in early childhood, awakened and have unfolded the Spiritual gifts that were mine, and have borne forward to the present hour the work appointed me to do; and

TO THOSE BELOVED FRIENDS

who, having received the ministration through my humble instrumentality have constantly given from hearts and hands the sympathy and aid needed to perform that work—and during the feebleness of the body have sent strength and succor; and especially to the beloved and loving friends: DR. CHAS. H. BUSHNELL, whose skill, healing power and faithful attendance were given without stint or measure and most lovingly, SARAH J. ASHTON, co-worker for more than a quarter of a century, Assistant Pastor of my Congregation and, above all else, faithful, devoted friend, without whose unfailing care and constant helpfulness for long months my spirit could not have returned to its human habitation to take up its assigned work,

This imperfect record of experiences is most lovingly and gratefully inscribed.

CORA L. V. RICHMOND.

FOREWORD

When the first book was published (Part I. of this Volume) containing an account of "my experiences while out of my body,' etc., there was an intimation in the "added word or two" that other and deeper Experiences might be published as the writer had already mady the effort to write them.

It seemed then, and it now seems, that such an attempt woud be almost sacriligeous, as it certainly is impossible of accomplishment, to adequately convey in human language any idea of what those experiences were; what it really is to be there.

Vouchsafed to me from above and it seemed a part of the incentive for returning to my body that they were to be transcribed, as far as possible, for others to read and to have thereby a glimpse of those surpassing states, the attempt was made.

Part I.—The little book of Experiences in the Spirit States connected with earth—has gone forth on its mission of conveying a message to those who read it of somewhat that can be known concerning spirit states, even while here in the mundane environment.

Many of the personal messages entrusted to the writer have already been delivered

to the loved ones in human life to whom they were sent, other messages are waiting the available opportunity, as those messages must all be delivered in person.

Surpassing as were those experiences during that prolonged visit to the spirit states that immediately follow the transition of spirits from the human form the meeting and communing with loved ones of the earth-home and of the larger household of the spirit, there were other and more wondrous experiences of such transcendent beauty and intensity of interest that they baffle every resource of description at one's command.

One must however, make the attempt to convey, though it be in the smallest degree, the supervision received from those Divine States and that still remain and must ever constitute a portion of the Soul's Eternal possessions.

I trust it will not be deemed presumptious that this inadequate portrayal was attempted, for at the very commencement of the experiences in those higher states the one who was known as the **Angel Guide** caused it to be distinctly understood that:

"None but Angels can have **real** knowledge of or enter into the **Angelic State;** but those who are **faithful** to **their Spiritual gifts** and to the **fulfillment** of **their duty** in **presenting** the **Truth** to their fellow beings as it is given them, may be inspired and il-

lumined to **perceive** and **know** (according to their Spiritual unfoldment) somewhat concerning those Lower and Higher Realms; therefore you, as a student and faithful Instrument, Beloved one, are given these glimpses into the **"Realm Celestial."**

Let the above paragraphs be my justification (if it is needed) for attempting to portray the indescribable, ineffable wonders of that Realm.

CORA L. V. RICHMOND

MY EXPERIENCES WHILE OUT OF MY BODY AND MY RETURN AFTER MANY DAYS

Part I.

THE RELEASE

It was true then: I was suddenly and finally released from my body; "this time," I said, or thought: "I will not have to return."

Many times, almost numberless, I had experienced the wonderful consciousness of being absent from my human form, of mingling with arisen friends in their higher state of existence, but, until this time I had always known that it was only for a brief season and that their was a tie—a vital and psychic tie—binding me to return to my earth form. But now; now; could it be true? Was I set free to live and work with the Beloved—the dear ones—in this their higher, more perfect state?

The Best Beloved, those who had preceded me into this wondrous life, came thronging around, by degrees, to welcome me: not all at once, but first those who were by tenderest ties the nearest and the dearest.

They did not answer my question: "Have I really come to stay"?

The Guide—the Guardian, took me gently in charge that I might not even think of the form I had so lately left. A great sense of relief; of being set free from the limitations of the body, filled me, far greater than I had ever experienced before. A feeling pervaded me that all of me was released. It surely seemed that my work in the human body was done: that the last word was spoken, the last pen-stroke made.

O, the wonder, the unspeakable joy of thus being united with the Beloved—those whom I knew had never died, but had thrown off their garments of dust for the more beautiful raiment of the spirit!

In a narrative written for others to read one cannot dwell minutely on the sacred meetings with those who were ever nearest and dearest; those of the household, related by ties of consanguinity and those who were kindred in spirit, united to one in thought and aspiration. All that such reunion means, more than can be dreamed or imagined where one is in the human state, was now my possession.

"Turn away, turn away from all thought of the Earth-form;" said the one appointed to lead and guide me in this newer, grander flight.

One by one—or in groups—the dear ones of the Earth-home joined us, welcoming me

ever, yet ever evading the oft recurring question, "Am I really here to stay?"

My attention was continually attracted to some group or company that had not been seen by me—always a surprise to find them "all there." They would smile and seem to answer, "Yes, all here," in our own particular states, and doing our own appointed work."

THE VASTNESS OF THE SPIRIT REALM

There was a perception of great Light, a consciousness of Illumination, an awakening to the vastness, the unlimitation of this Realm of Spirit.

O how often, when in "dreams" or "visions" I had been permitted and aided by my Guides to visit the Spirit States, this inner and higher Realm, I had longed to remain! But ever willing to answer the call of duty, of added work to be performed by me, I would return to fill my place at the appointed time. NOW; NOW?—

All else was swallowed up—eclipsed by the wonderful experiences that came—the Beloved Presences—the vistas of luminous Spirits! This was a state of Super-Consciousness; the awakening of faculties and perceptions before unknown, of **being aware**, almost without limitation: of KNOWING. Whatever is the nature and

state of the **real Ego** this seemed as near to the **Absolute** as one could well conceive! There was so **much** of me! There was so **little** of me! There were so many and such surpassing Spirits! How one shrinks in the presences of the mighty ones! How one expands in the Knowledge of the Infinite: His Image!

Often in approaching a trancendent Light there would appear an atmosphere of ensphering tints—there would also seem to be a sphere of sound, of surpassing music. On being admitted to that sphere it would prove to be a group of spirits who thus in accord **are Light** and **Harmony.** Where one can enter such an "atmosphere" communing with such a group it is because one has **need** of and is in harmony with the spirits of that group.

SENSES MERGED IN PERCEPTION

Objective scenes seemed ever to be **adaptations** to my state, and would often vanish as I became aware of the minds or spirits suggested by the scenes.

"All human sensations, as sight and hearing, are readily perceived by one awakening to spiritual states to be but **manifestations of consciousness through the physical limitations** to which the spirit in its mental states of earth becomes accustomed. But **here** all is merged in **perception**—where one

perceives and **understands,**" thus said the Guide.

This added consciousness—uniting or releasing the faculties—is not all at once: I found myself thinking in the accustomed channels, in **words** as well as thoughts, **listening** for replies instead of knowing that the answer had been **thought** to me, really was there before I had questioned; of looking for beautiful **forms** and scenes instead of **perceiving** the **Soul of Beauty** which was (is) everywhere.

I became more and more aware that the whole of me, released from the fetters of the bodily senses, could perceive and receive more perfectly the answer to every question, even before its formulation in thought.

"Formulation is a process of limitation, sometimes of hindrance," said the Guide. "A feeble comparison of what 'perception' really is may be found in an artist (of Earth) whose **prepared mind** (and therefore vision) sees the beauty in a landscape, a sunset sky that another sees not at all, or dimly. Prepared senses are the result of prepared minds, of being pervaded by the **awareness** of the Spirit," said the Presence.

It is of little avail, however, to attempt to bring into outward forms of thought and expression the **perceptions** one is aware of while one is in that inner state, excepting that they relate to conditions under which those loved and loving ones in that state can

reach and change for the better the sorrowing hearts in human life, the shadowed conditions of earth existence.

THE BODY IN CHARGE OF GUARDIANS

After a time (I did not know it **as time**) I became aware of being led to where the earthly form was still breathing, being cared for and imbued with breath by a beloved Guardian spirit and by devoted friends in human life. I was to return after all! It was necessary to keep my spirit **en rapport** with the body as the **Psychic Cord** was **not severed that connected** body and spirit. But not at once was I to return.

These periods of calling my attention to and visiting the body were brief—just enough to keep the "vital spark" alive, and aid the dear attendants in both worlds to prevent the complete separation which for many days seemed imminent.

A VAST CONGREGATION

It is well known to those who may be interested in reading these pages that during all the years of my mortal life (since the age of eleven) I have been brought before audiences and assemblies of people—many thousands; among them were hundreds who became friends—some of them life-long, some

of later years. I had known of the "passing on" of very many who had been members of those audiences and of my own "Flock," but I was not prepared for the **vast congregation** that came out of their respective groups composing a still greater concourse to meet me, nor was I prepared to realize that I knew most of them as friends on Earth!

There were those who had heard the utterances of my Guides through my lips when I was a child; those who had attended and were my personal friends when I was "still in my teens"; and those who in later years had been of the audiences in many places; and those of my own beloved Congregation!

How difficult to realize that they were all gathered into the larger "Congregation of the skies." Each and all unfolding, working in whatever line of knowledge and work was theirs to attain and achieve! And to find all the treasured jewels of friendship more bright in the added lustre of the larger life; the flowers in the Garden of true Affection growing more and more transcendently fair!

This is indeed Heaven! Next in blessedness to the Homes of the Best Beloved which are the very **Kingdom of Heaven!**

MINISTRATIONS OF SPIRITS

It was wondrous to note the ministrations of spirits to those in other less fortunate states—especially to those in Earthly forms. Wherever the ties of consanguinity were also of real affection the spirit guardians of the household responded to the "call," perhaps only a thought, a longing, or a silent prayer for aid and strength, or a **need** unknown to the one ministered unto.

Time is not a factor on the spirit side, the response to a need—an aspiration, a prayer is instantaneous. Where there seems to be delay, and often doubt in the minds of those on Earth as to the presence and ministration of the loved one who has been summoned, it is because of Earthly barriers, because those in the human state cannot perceive—and many, alas, are not willing to receive the spirit friend. I saw that the usual barriers are: Uncontrolled, selfish grief —mourning for the one who has "passed on" and often forgetting the other dear ones of the household who are left; seeking for the communion to forward a purely **selfish** purpose; and, in general, the obstruction of false education, theological and material, through which the spiritual faculties have been closed for generations.

When human hands and hearts, even though the latter is wrung by pain, seek to **help others** who are in sorrow or need, then

the way is opened and the **helpers** are helped by the ministering ones.

To mourn the friend as utterly "gone" who has only dropped the outer garments of the dust is to close, for the time, the avenue of communication or ministration. Long must the spirit helpers work and wait for people to be ready to receive their response to the call for aid. So many did I see who could not reach the recognition of their loved ones that I wished **over** and **over** again **that there were more real "Message bearers,"** more to give comfort to those that mourn! And then the Presence answered: "Not all are ready to whom the Messages now are given, nor are those protected adequately who are the chosen Instruments for Message bearing, but the seed is being sown and will take root in thousands of lives."

THOUGHT-FORMS

I was shown those who existed in the **thought-forms** and scenes of their recent human states: Such as these were surrounded with the "things" (forms of things) familiar to them on Earth, and apparently necessary to their happiness even in the new state of existence. These scenes illustrated that our lives even in the human state, consist largely of **"state of mind,"** that we see the things we are accustomed to see, or have trained our minds or wishes to see omitting

many and sometimes **most** of the things of beauty and of import that we **might** see.

The spirit-states that are "exactly like the scenes of Earth" are composed of the thought forms of the spirits' imaging or reproduction, and **are** the **reality** to them. I recalled the weaving of a web that I had once seen an industrious spider perfect and he was afterwards caught in his own web. I wondered if we are not often in human life—and the states that immediately follow the weavers of many such "cobwebs"? These thought-webs seemed to proceed from the minds of the spirits fashioning them and in which the spirits seemed to be ensphered, sometimes enshadowed. Before my questionings had **taken form in my mind** the answer came from the Presence: "No, they are not enmeshed **by** the thought-forms; their creation is the result of the present **condition;** remove the power to produce thought-forms, **i.e.,** to create ones own environment and you remove all activity of mind. As the Spirit unfolds the thought-forms change and then disappear as **perception** takes the place of limitation by the senses."

With the almost axiomatic proposition that "our world of life is what we make it" our spirit-surroundings and conditions the result of our states of unfoldment, it became less difficult even when returning to the limitations of human organism to un-

derstand the conditions of existence in the "next stage" of personal experience beyond the "transition" misnamed "death."

Spirit states are as varied as are the personal states of those composing them; the knowledge—or lack of it—possessed by the person IS **the spirit state, i. e., knowledge of spiritual principles.**

Oh, if one could coin new words, or new understandings, in order better to express that which one knows when set free from Earthly environment! Yes, the **New Understanding;** that is the great need; and that must really be **attained** by **unfoldment,** growth from within, the pervading all illuminating power of the spirit.

Those in spirit states who were reproducing the familiar scenes of their Earth conditions were satisfied and even very happy—especially when the scenes so reproduced were of a nature that had brought their ability to make things seem "exactly as they did in Earth life," not even knowing that this similitude was the result of their own thought-forms instead of being **inherent or organic** in the "spirit land."

Interesting and absorbing as were these lessons of observing, the process of weaving their thoughts into the forms most desired or needed by the spirits producing them, there were many whose reproductions were of the shadowed kind and were not voluntary, but results of the deep im-

press that the shadows of Earth-experiences had made upon their minds. No one illustration could serve—but all states and conditions that I could realize were shown.

TIME NOT A FACTOR

Time does not seem to be a factor in the realm of spirits except as related to people and events in the human state with which spirits have connection.

It was, however, a source of continual wonder and suprise to note the changing forms and **atmospheres** in the surroundings of those with whom I was brought in contact. I saw spirits who, when in Earth-life had been in positions of external power—usually considered "exalted"—as of kings or rulers—the result of no "merit" or achievement of their own, but the "incident" or "accident" of birth, who were arrayed in their **own thought-robes** of power, but closer observation would reveal the poverty and meagerness of their "Robes of Royalty" and they were sometimes seeking somewhat with which to clothe themselves, something to **conceal** their paucity of raiment and surroundings. Most of those, however, who had held such positions as are the result of "titles," "rank" and "castes," seemed endowed with perception enough to know that those external conditions are not perpetuated in spirit states,

unless one has become so imbued with the **idea** that "titles," "wealth," and outward "honors" are **valuable** in **themselves.** And that the "Divine Right of Kings" is indeed a "right" derived from Heaven.

THE TRULY GREAT ARE HUMBLE

I saw many of those who had been poor in worldly possessions, even despised and scorned among men or put to death because of their advocacy of an unpopular "cause" now radiant in their own spiritual brightness, unconsciously

"Wearing their sunbright thoughts
For Robes of Royalty."

Ah! How beautiful were they! These of the shining faces and radiant hearts! Ever intent on trying to aid humanity, whether in shadowed spirit states or in Earthly conditions.

One may not give the names (even if one knew them) by which these in the various spirit states were known on Earth. I saw many who were known to be Great: Great in thoughts, deeds and words for the enlightenment of their fellow-beings. Ever were they humble, as ever are the truly **Great.** None in spirit life are outwardly **adorned** with the "honors" given to them or their "memory" by a tardy World. The truly exalted are far too intent on ameliorating the adverse conditions of spirit and

human states to take note of the praise and pomp of Earthly "celebrations" in "memory" of them, sometimes tardily bestowed.

To be truly Beloved by an individual, a country or a world is indeed blessed, and exalted souls do know and understand the true meaning of being "appreciated and beloved."

The Light of the Shining ones, the Great ones, is not dimmed in the brightness of the higher spheres, for they are of its light a part.

SPIRIT GROUPS AND INSPIRERS

It is because of the spirit possessions that those of kindred thoughts, perceptions, aspirations are attracted to each other and form groups—not conventional or arbitrary—interchanging ideas—purposes—and working **together** for others. I saw them "**moving upon**" the minds of those in Earth-forms whom they could reach, sometimes singly, some times in groups, as the conditions might require. The Student in his library, the Inventor in his "work shop" or laboratory, the "Discoverer" in his Observatory searching for new worlds or on ships of "exploration" sailing for Unknown lands, more particulary those who are seeking to solve the vexed "problems" of human life.

Ah! It was indeed a scene of wonder to

see each and every spirit thus intent on doing good to his kind, imparting some needed thought, some "clue" or "thread" of an intricate proposition that would solve the whole! Long are these "Inventions" and "discoveries" known in Spirit states before the one is "born" into human life that can give them outward Expression. How luminous seemed the Atmospheres of Spirit thus surrounding those in Earth life when the Heavenly presences were near! And such lives are always luminous in their own brightness or the Higher ones could not "draw near" and inspire them.

The people know the names of some of those now on Earth whose "discoveries," "inventions," and works have transformed the world! Those arisen ones who aid in bearing forward the Works Beautiful, direct their thoughts to such as are ready in Earth life. Here are the "Thinkers," whose knowledge of the Truths of the Universe constitutes the source of all power, Ideas that born of those Truths reach the minds, prepared to receive them and **move the world.** We saw and paused among assemblies, groups pursuing their usual course of conferring, interchanging of ideals and preparing to impart more and more the knowledge that is theirs—as minds are prepared to receive them.

Knowledge is imparted by adaptation.

All such **imparting** of **knowledge must be by adaptation.** The Spirit is attracted—would be from the very nature of the Spirit—to the one best prepared to receive **from that Spirit.** Thus the subtle law of imparting knowledge by adaptation governs the realm of spirit and constitutes the basis of deciding concerning "Guides," "Guardian Spirits," and all "ministering ones." **Affection** determines the intimate personal guardians.

FROM SPIRIT TO SPIRIT

It was most interesting and enlightening to see—as I was permitted to witness—a number of those who are in human states receiving from luminous and illuminating spirits some new application of science or art, some new presentation of Truth! The minds of Earth so impressed are not narrowly questioning "from whence do the ideas come"? Fearful, if from another **mind** that those receiving them may "lose their Individuality." Such minds know that Truths belong to **minds**—and that **somewhere** are greater minds than one's own—who can impart knowledge. **Truth is the common heritage of souls;** of Intelligence; and happy is the mind, spirit or Angel that can perceive or receive it **from any source.** Intelligence alone perceives and imparts Intelligence.

The process of imparting knowledge from spirit to spirit (whether those imparting and receiving are in spirit states or still in Earth forms), grows ever more and more interesting as one passes into greater awakening and perception of the **realities**, the **verities** of spirit. "Teaching," "Education" (in the human sense) only exists in states or conditions in the spirit realm where the human methods and forms of thought still govern the minds of the spirits.

Love is the great Illuminator in all realms and worlds, and thus **adaptation** of Teacher and the one to be taught **must** be the keynote to all reception of knowledge.

One would like to say so much while comparing the "Educational" process of spirit states with the methods of Earth (excellent as some of the latter have become); but one must hasten to record added experiences while they are near to the outward consciousness from within. For when one enters again into daily life of Earth, even although is is ever pervaded by those surpassing scenes, the vividness of the higher state becomes dimmed by the necessary veiling that human conditions bring.

THERE IS AN ANSWER FOR EVERY QUESTION

Everything that I **wished to know** found ready answer; even before the wish was

formed into **thought.** I could realize that the answer came from the Guide, who was my teacher by adaptation. I could realize that for every **real** aspiration there is ever an answer; in fact that the answer from within and above prompts the aspiration, the wish to know. That there is a solution for every so-called "problem"; for, in the final analysis, there **are** no "problems"—**except states** of **non-perception.**

All this and a thousand times more of inward awakening came to me as I grew in the perception of the Knowledge of the Spirit.

"THOSE WHO LOVE THEIR FELLOW-BEINGS"

I saw a countless multitude growing brighter, more resplendant, as I was led nearer. Among them were those more radiant than the others—greater, it seemed, in the scope and power of their spirits.

I recognized—not always from personal knowledge on Earth—some of the individuals who were there, centers of groups of radiant ones, those who, when in Earth life "loved their fellowmen"; and who, by word and deed had sought to overcome the errors and abuses heaped upon humanity. Their battles with tongue and pen (no armaments or weapons of war), their shining armors of Righteousness—were finally

known and appreciated by many minds (souls) on Earth.

One whom I had known from early childhood came toward me with the group of his friends and relatives, whom I had also known. He greeted me as he was ever wont to do when we both were in Earth forms. Though advanced in years before he left the form, he was ever youthful, ever calm and peaceful; yet firm and forceful in his advocacy of his convictions of Human Brotherhood, and the final triumph of the spirit over errors of human conditions in Time and Sense. By those who knew his life and works he was considered a "leading and inspiring mind"; to many he was a Prophet of the "Good time Coming." How my spirit thrilled with this meeting with him and his household and the group of friends who were with him. One question I had often asked in mind, or had wished to know concerning it:

Had he—this friend with whom I was then conversing, met in spirit states the one who in a distant land of Earth had said: "———— ———— is the greatest man America ever possessed"?

The one who said this to a prominent writer was also a "lover of his fellow men," but the two had never met in Earth life. The question was not asked; before it could be formulated the answer came: "Yes, we have met and often confer together. In all

essentials relating to the **Supreme Realities** of life and the growth of human beings toward perfection through knowledge of Divine Truth and Love we are in perfect accord." I then perceived from among that goodly company the one approaching of whom we had been speaking; our thought of him and our appreciation had attracted him to us. Long and earnestly they spoke of the things **to be** when the children of Earth shall be set free from the shadows caused by ignorance. I more and more perceived some of the personalities of those illuminated ones, and more than once was I surprised that those who had been of such widely different conditions, environment, education, habits of mind, and, one would think, opposite spiritual states could be together!

The Presence aware that the surprise would exist, said:

"As you already know, differences of birth, nationality, outward rank and even of education, are not **real** differences in spirit. These are (and were) all lovers of their kind—lovers of Peace through Enlightenment and Righteousness, and they are now, as they were when on Earth constantly seeking through interchange of high Ideals, to find the best means for helping others—to lift the clouds of ignorance from the minds of earth; even now one is within your vision whose presence here will

surprise you." I saw a stately form and recognized the one who, as the head of a great Ecclesiastical organization had in the "Prayer for Peace" issued a short time before he had passed from his Earth-form given the following significant sentence:

"MAY THEY (THE NATIONS) REMOVE THE CAUSES OF WAR."

As a lover of humanity, a promoter of Peace, he seemed to stand near these shining ones, many of whom when on earth (and now) have never recognized **any** Ecclesiastical Authority. Of course, I knew that any such lines, barriers, and human standards are removed—or rapidly vanish—in spirit states among Enlightened minds. And that they realize, as this one must have realized, that the Earthly "Office" and all its outward symbols and adornments cannot continue in a realm where the **real** nature stands revealed—the nature of the spirit.

All these composing this radiant assemblage were intent on reaching and for their good, acting upon the minds of those on Earth for the "Promotion of Peace on Earth and Love to All."

Alas and alas! "Those engaged in actual war—the war raging between one-half the nations of the Earth that call themselves 'enlightened' cannot be reached until the leaders and rulers have learned the lesson

taught by bitter experience." So the Presence said, and so I had perceived, saddened by the thoughts of the awful human suffering that must ensue.

THE SHADOWS OF THE CONFLICT

Then I was shown the dense Shadow—the awful darkness that seemed an engulfing abyss: the scenes of the conflict now raging on Earth. That which I saw (then just begun), seemed, however, more to represent the spiritual and mental states of Rulers and Leaders than the physical scenes of battles. I saw the bright spots where the ministrants of mercy were rallying, regardless of nationality or "class," to aid those physically wounded, to breathe a word of comfort to those injured mortally who were "passing on."

Above the terrible scenes of battles I saw those in the "rank and file" of the armies and navies who were so suddenly wrenched from their bodies. Their first thoughts (as their last thoughts had been), were of those loved ones from whom they were so suddenly parted when ordered "to the front." They were aided to find the dear ones (alas where were the "homes"? now desolate. Many of the families scattered and in deepest suffering, great physical want, and greater grief.)

They tried, often without avail, to com-

fort and aid the dear ones, their own states of mind and grief over the separation preventing them from effectively ministering to their loved ones. They soon become aware that the aid could not be material, that spiritual strength and consolation must be from spiritual sources and that they might, if themselves strong in spirit, move upon the minds of others in human life to aid those dear to them.

It was a wonderful sight to behold the ministering spirits succoring, comforting, instructing those thus suddenly thrust into spirit states; none but those endowed with the Divine Gifts of loving compassion—like a Florence Nightingale or a Clara Barton —could so successfully aid those spirits thus ruthlessly torn from their human ties and forms. It is an awful sight! Yet the spirit "Rescuers" are there! The "Red Cross" of the skies finds its way to those who need the help and guidance.

In a measure the Soldiers, all who must go to war on land or sea, are better prepared for the sudden change than those hurled into spirit life by "accident" of shipwreck or other disaster, or by volcanic or earthquake shock. The Soldier **knows** that he is to confront possible and even probable physical death—and being thus prepared often is less surprised and shocked when he finds himself "out of his body." Yet, wherever the need may be, the "strong

helpers" are there: above every scene of human sacrifice, whether Cataclysmic, "natural causes" or the result of human ignorance and neglect, or the self-seeking aggression of war, there are they—the dear ones, the strong ones, the saving ones!

All cannot be aided to at once perceive the new-found condition: everything must depend on the degree of spiritual preparedness, which is often greater among the humble and lowly—who has a line of simple life, simple love, simple duty to follow than among the more complex mental and moral states of the "leaders." The real state, spiritually, determines the "condition" of the spirit in spirit life.

Nor were the "clouded" and "shadowed" scenes of Earth life found alone above the lines of battle. There were sometimes deeper shadows among the scenes of "pleasure" and "mirth," mocking splendor of wealth and its opposite of want, squalor, misery, the **toll of human sacrifice is not always in the "death" of the body.** There are vortices more terrible than the volcano's fiery breath or earthquake's yawning mouth; the palace often seemed more densely shadowed than the hovel; while the dwelling, though a cottage, brightened with Love shone out like a star of splendor.

"Spiritual knowledge, the unfoldment of the highest from within, this alone can change the "shadowed states" of Earth in-

to brightness. Every life must be reached; every mind touched and awakened by the spirit; the "good" that is within each must be brought forth."

TURNING FOR RESPITE

From the storm-scenes of contending forces, from the darkness of Spiritual night, from the uncertain states, like dim twilight, one ever turns in spirit to the Beloved, to the groups of loved and loving ones that constitute the "Home of the Spirit." "Spiritual rest is change," respite from witnessing the unhappy conditions, the shadows of spiritual states that one cannot at once remedy. "Rest" is not idleness: communion, companionship, **working together for those who can be aided**—this is rest. The "Home Group" ever intent upon ministering wherever and whenever needed, afforded the respite sought. Such memories of Earth-experiences as had been kept alive in the sacred altar-flame of true affection and home ties; such interchange of Ideals and experiences as the later years had brought; such knowledge of the blending of the spirit and the mortal states, the guardianship and ministration of the loved arisen ones over those in Earth-forms, this was rest. Blessed respite; blessed communion; one would never be ready, it would seem, to part with such companionship.

Nor **do** we ever "part" with the truly loved. Whatever duties we must perform for those in spirit or human states, **those most in accord, those nearest and dearest are ever with us** "whether in or out of the body."

Our human phrases, and even our usual thoughts seem superficial, weak and puerile when endeavoring to describe the divine **realities** of the Spirit. We never "part"; we can never be "absent" from the Beloved. Yet the shadows of human existence: "time and sense," and outward "change" and "circumstances" are upon those who make "the house of clay" the limit of their mental and spiritual possessions.

REUNION WITH LOVERS OF "PEACE"

Returning again and often to the bright sphere composed of "those who love their fellow-beings"; from among them came those whom I had known—with whom I had, as a humble worker labored for some cause—**this time** a few, especially two or three last seen in Earth life at the Hague Peace Conference (1907). "Ah, how well we then knew—as well as even now when the conflict rages—that the nations (44 in number) were not all, indeed but few of them, seeking for 'peace'; the permanent establishment of a Court of Arbitration for the world! Each was there to "test" the

others; nearly all endeavoring to gain some concession from the others to aid in their own selfish future aggressions"! Such was the thought flashed from my friend of the brilliant mind and noble heart who came with others to greet me. And the dear lady who took me in her arms and kissed me when we parted there at the Hague even as she did now, said: "We meet again, and here there is sweet Peace—but O, the horrors of the war! And **you, you will return to Earth for further work.**" She gave her blessing with such love as her grand soul can give.

The other one, he of the brilliant mind and facile pen, he of the awakened and illumined spirit, said: "Yes, you will return to Earth for added work (even after those many, many years of work already performed), we will aid you, we all **must** aid those who are working to enlighten the minds, to awaken the spirits of those immured in the materialism of Earth. How dense we all are until awakened! Sorrow smites us, then the fountains of the Soul come forth; our spiritual Guardians can help us then, and we begin to know. That was my case on Earth. Now I realize how little I **did** know, but I am grateful that I was not an entire stranger to this realm of spirits, and there is all eternity in which to grow in knowledge."

MESSAGES FROM FRIENDS

From those whom I met in their homes of peace and love and work were many messages to be delivered **in person** by me to the dear ones on Earth—messages that might be of interest here to show that true affection and personal watchfulness are more manifested from the spirit side of life than people know; even those accustomed to spirit communion and ministration do not realize all that they might of this nearness.

These messages are too intimate and sacred, however, to be given here, and they breathe all the fervor of the **real life and love of the Spirit.** I shall communicate them to those to whom they were sent.

THE SPIRIT-HOME OF THE CHILDREN

But O, the Children! the Children! What can one write or say? What words adapted to tongue or pen can convey an adequate idea of the spheres in which my spirit has often met those darlings of both worlds? My own baby girl, who passed on many, many years ago and who has grown to womanhood in her spirit state, has ever been my constant companion, as a guardian spirit, during my busy hours of Earth life, as a **pilot** and gentle helper when

through sleep or trance-control my spirit was set free to join her and visit the realm of the children.

These "little ones" are often wiser in knowledge of the spirit than mortals of more mature years.

Blessings ever attend the presence of a babe in the home of love on Earth and, in the highest sense, doubly blessed are those who having possessed such a treasure know that if the babe passes from mortal sight the **treasure is still theirs,** a babe—growing among the flowers of the gardens of spiritual life is as

"A light within a light,
A joy ensphered in joy."

Such a child becomes a sacred guardian unto the household.

It was indeed an enchanted realm into which we now entered. Although visited many times during many years it now seemed more real, more beautiful, more perfect.

As far as vision (perception) could reach —as vast as the mind could compass or conceive there were children, children everywhere! Sporting in the light of their own brightness and joy; they were embodied sunbeams, weaving rainbow tinted thoughts into forms of beauty; flowers, flowers everywhere; songs of birds and

child voices mingling with murmuring waters amid scenes of rarest beauty. Ah, the spirit realm of childhood; the playgrounds of the skies!

Not only children, but "those of larger growth," parents, teachers, friends were there to teach, to aid, **and to grow** in greater knowledge and usefulness. Sometimes the children are the teachers to those older in Earth years.

Isles of light, radiant with flowers and verdure and surrounded by irridescent waters! Could one ever picture the thought-forms of these lovely ones?

"Let us make rainbows," exclaimed one fairylike child among a group of playmates, some of whom were new in that realm. A questioning look came into the eyes of those addressed: "How can we **make** rainbows?" A child-teacher drew near and said: "I will show you; come with me."

The five or six eagerly responded.

"Take hold of hands," the Teacher said, "and have no fear, there can be no rainbows without clouds and light."

I was permitted to follow, with sight or ken, as the Teacher led them away, away from those enchanting scenes to where the clouds and shadows hung dark beneath and around them.

They had drawn near a large city of Earth.

"O let's not go there," said one, "it seems

so dark." But the others urged her on. Soon one little boy among thm said, "See, there is a little girl. She is cold and is crying on the street; she is hungry too, let us help her." They drew near, and the child, feeling comforted (she knew not why)' sobbed more softly and prayed:

"O, my mamma in heaven, **can you hear** me and send help to brother and baby—you loved us so?" Then the spirit children saw a man approaching; they fairly **pushed him toward the weeping child** to whom he spoke kindly asking:

"What is the matter my little girl?"

"O, sir, my mother is dead, and my brother is sick and the baby has nothing to eat. We're so cold in that room."

"Can you take me there," asked the man, and he held out his hand for her to lead him. She clasped two of his fingers with her tiny hand and led him through the dark streets to a narrow alley and up some dark, creaking stairs. Yes, there was little brother crying for "mamma," for "sister," and the baby asleep but sobbing.

The kind-hearted man saw everything at a glance.

"Don't cry, my little man. I'll be back in a few minutes. Take care of them, little lady, until I come."

The spirit children had helped, and helped; they saw the spirit mother looking very sad, bending above the baby, and then

above "little brother." They also tried to comfort him and help the little girl. They saw the man go to a telephone and talk with some one and they could see and feel the light of kindness with which he spoke and in which the answers came. How quick he was! He found a place to buy food. He came back soon, built a fire, warmed some milk, gave the other children something to ease the worst pangs of hunger. Presently a woman came—such a kind heart! She too worked fast. She gave the baby some food prepared in the milk, helped the little sick boy, who was more in need of bodily comfort than anything else, soothed and fed the little girl who, little mother that she was, at once aided in caring for the baby.

How the spirit children worked too! They had made the man see and hear the little girl, had aided in guiding her to the dismal room called "home", had helped him find the telephone and the place to buy the food, had helped the woman to find the place, had helped take care of the children and comfort them and the spirit mother.

"Now," said the Teacher, "we will return to our beautiful home."

One little boy whispered to the Teacher: "I know there are more children and people who need help down there. Can we go again and help?"

"Whenever you choose to make rainbows

or flowers or other beautiful things we will go." And they rejoiced.

Lo! As they passed through the encompassing clouds circles of rainbows o'erspanned them and paths of rainbows guided them to their spirit home. When the other children saw them approaching they sang, "O, the rainbows! O, the rainbows! When you dry the tears of sorrow and help those in need you make rainbows."

All spirit children are taught to visit the scenes of Earth life. The home and its loved ones, where they are missed, ever attracts them and they are taught to minister, to aid, to guard. If they **had** no home on Earth they try to aid those who still remain in the "orphan" realm of human life.

THERE ARE NO ORPHANS IN THE SPIRIT REALM:

Mothers whose babes are in the Earth life help to care for those "little waifs" thrust out of human existence—and for spirit children that pine for Mother love.

Children whose parents are in Earth life are taught to aid and comfort those in the home as well as those who have no home. Especially cared for are the little "waifs" who were not welcome in the Earth-forms —even those who have not seen the light of earthly day—not always from among the poor of earth were they driven, especially

those abandoned by the unfortunate or misguided mothers. These and all are "mothered" by the spirits whose hearts are filled with mother love. And here it is well to note that not **all** who are earthly parents are **real** fathers and mothers, and many who are childless—work night and day in the "asylums" on earth to save some neglected, forsaken, child. These are real parents.

What greater "punishment" could there be than when the human mother has turned away from the sacred gift of motherhood, she meets, on entering spirit life, her own neglected babe who welcomes her there? "Coals of fire!"

It is not always to visit scenes of sorrow and want that the spirit children are led to **"Lyceums,"** where the little ones of earth are taught, places of entertainment and amusement where they play, and sing, and grow; there also are the playmates of the spirit home mingling with them and endeavoring to impress them with thoughts and deeds of loving kindness with things of beauty.

Returning to the Realm of Spirit Children one finds such respite from care, such constant sources of happiness, such fashioning of forms of beauty. Oh, that all could know! Knowledge of all this has reached but few on Earth; yet more and more will human minds be pervaded by the methods of the Skies.

Those who have given new methods of "Education" to the people of Earth have been inspired somewhat by these Teachers in spirit states. Froebel, whose "Kindergarden" system was intended for "children" of all ages; A. J. Davis, whose "Progressive Lyceum" system was not intended **exclusively** for Sunday training of **children** but in its inception was a reproduction of the "teachings" in spirit states (as far as his mind and inspiration could reproduce such beautiful methods.) Even if one could give in human language the form of teaching (or methods) of the spirit states, the law of **adaptation** prevailing in the higher realms might not always be available in human life.

How beautiful to know that growth—and the best opportunity for the highest unfoldment with most loving teachers and Guardians surround the darlings who have passed from the households of Earth.

Here then, O human parents, O sisters and brothers, you who miss the bodily presence of the one who occupied the "vacant chair," you who feel the **prevading sense of the absence** of the loved children: here they are; bringing to your very homes and hearts, could you but realize it, the love, the knowledge, the wisdom, the beauty of the skies.

BEAUTY AND HARMONY

Ever from childhood through all the years of Earth-life beautiful scenery, tints of earth and sky, music, in fact all beautiful sights and sounds, strongly appealed to me. In the spirit states I noted that harmonious colors, beautiful scenes, and often exquisite music greeted me as we approached groups of radiant atmospheres, encircling spheres of light; such exquisite sounds of harmony as one dreams must be the "Music of the Spheres." On approaching nearer I would perceive that the **tints** and **sounds,** as they reached me, were the radiations of thought, the spirit **activities** of these thus ensphered who have attained real harmony. They were not MAKING beautiful colors and music, but LIVING them.

THE "ARTISTS"

Perhaps I have elsewhere written that music in spirit states does not always accompany the one who was a "musician" on Earth; and harmony of color, beautiful surroundings may ensphere one who never thought of being an "artist." Their lives have been interwoven with sweet and loving thoughts and deeds.

That which would have been a source of surprise had I not previously known it was

that "artists," "painters," "sculptors," "musicians," and even some of the "poets," known by those names on Earth, are not fashioning landscapes, portraits, or carving from stone the images of lovely forms, nor are they fashioning or weaving into music or verse some classical or other theme: All of those who were "geniuses," all who were Idealists,, **true lovers of their kind,** find here (in spirit life) their highest happiness in **ministering to others,** in moving upon the minds, hearts, spirits of those to whom they are adapted, until they perceive the **Soul of Beauty** and fashion it into their lives. The "Masters" of art: painters, sculptors, builders, construct their temples and adorn them with **lives**—the true images of beauty in thought, feeling, aspiration, achievement.

Music is **perfect Harmony,** of one life with itself and others, of many lives in all their highest purposes. Such are the creators of the "Symphonies of the Skies."

Those who had "Talent," hoping to achieve the works of "Genius"—sometime, somewhere, are still intent on fashioning reproductions or imitations of natural objects and scenes, or impressing art students of Earth to produce such effects. But these are not the creators—every "creation" is from within and must **live,**" said my Teacher.

One wishes for a magic pen, or for a per-

fect Gift of Expression, to convey in language the subtle consciousness of the Beauty and Harmony that meet one as one is led to the "**Atmospheres**" of some of the

"CREATORS OF BEAUTY."

More wonderful than all else was the knowledge that many who had never painted, carved, builded, or traced the "score" of musical composition were surrounded and pervaded by such ineffable loveliness that one could **weep for very joy** on perceiving it.

"Art is Great, but the perception of the Soul of Beauty is **Life! Love!**" said the Guide.

One perceives in such states as were there revealed that the true "artist" has not always been known among his fellow human beings, moving upon the world of thought, influencing other lives by the beauty and harmony of their own natures, these seem, when viewed from the spirit, to constitute the real artits.

"Is not the Temple of the Soul a Living Temple, is not the art of molding the mind to perform the mandates of the spirit more to be sought for and greater when attained? "Eternal in the Heavens" are the Temples "not made with hands," so said the Guide and so I perceived more and more clearly.

In marked contrast to the foregoing were

the thought-forms surrounding some of those who had been "artists" on Earth: broken lines, inharmonious colors, discords, sharp and jagged corners—all portraying disturbed conditions of the unruly thoughts and impulses that had possessed them in Earth-life.

I had interesting glimpses of those who were **"working with themselves."** One who was considered "eminent" in art on Earth was cutting, carving, breathing upon an **image of himself.**

"What **is** he doing?" I exclaimed, now really surprised.

"Removing the angularities and errors of his own nature: jealousy of other artists, the deepest scar; selfish love of human praise—that overweening desire for adulation; unwillingness to accord to others appreciation of their true merits," replied the Guide.

Later, I saw that artist self-renovated, and one whom he had envied derided and scorned, when both were in Earth life, **working together,** producing, through artist minds on earth, works that possess the merits of both with the added **tone** of harmony; the strength of one being merged in perfect accord with the grace and loveliness of the other, blended in wondrous works of Beauty.

This was a wonderful lesson, serving to illustrate that at first, and possibly for some

time after entering spirit life one's chief occupation is—or should be—removing one's own limitations; but this cannot **begin** until one is aware that one **has** the imperfections; to be conscious of one's faults is half the remedy.

Bodily imperfections, infirmities and disease, unless retained psychologically by having constantly encroached upon the mind, or deformities that are dwelt upon mentally, are dropped with the body; but such **infirmities of mind** as are born of an undue "egotism," undue **self love,** (the capital "I" around which the universe revolves), must be removed before the spirit can enter upon **real work.** As with artists so with those eminent in science or any department of human thought and endeavor; the truly Great are ever the most humble; realizing that however much they know, and however clearly they can **think** "the universe is full of things we do not know"; as one of the great ones aptly said.

I had met one—a brilliant mind— who in Earth life was gifted in many ways, chiefly mathematics. He had breakfasted on billions, dined on duodecillions, supped on sepdecillions, he wrote to the rythm of "logarithms," and worshiped at the shrine of the calculus! I tried to imagine what he might be doing. Perhaps he was measuring the immeasurable or calculating the uncalculable! I saw him! Where was

his Observatory? Where his maps, charts, instruments? The answer swept over and through me with a great thrill.

"The knowledge that comes to the spirit is instantanous—if one is ready—how can one use even the most perfect instrumentalities and methods when time and space are eliminated? **Truth is perceived:** in homely phrase "No ladder for the air men," "no mathematics for the soul!" I never could have imagined how quickly he would "perceive." He had attained the real knowledge of wisdom and love.

The poet-prophets of the world, those who have sung in immortal verse the Truths of the Skies: Truths of Freedom, Justice, Love, Spiritual Exaltation, moved by the **theme** of their songs, using their art as a setting to the Jewel of Truth, these endowed ones knew that without the inspiring **theme,** the words, the rythm would be empty bubbles, glittering nothings.

ALL ARE TEACHERS

All exalted lives (spiritually) moving and living in similar planes of thought—born of their spiritual states—are attracted to each other in spirit life for the interchange of perceptions of Truth and bearing forward the work of illuminating such minds on Earth **as are ready** to receive along the lines of human progress and unfoldment,

imparting "the things they are ready to know."

Spirits, the wise ones, do not make the mistake, as many do in human life, of trying to **force** upon the minds of those whom they teach the truths or knowledge for which those minds are not prepared: "Arithmetic first, after that geometry and higher mathematics," is the rule in Earth schools. So in the instruction by spirit Teachers there is **adaptation** to the pupil not only of the Teacher but of that which is to be taught. There are "ministering spirits" adapted to every condition.

I could but marvel at the wonderful workings of these principles that govern the influence of "mind upon mind"—really **spirit upon spirit;** so much more complex yet more potent than the "forces" and operation of the "laws" of the material universe—"laws" so little understood, "forces" so dimly perceived.

"Most of the people on the Earth-plane know so little even concerning the things and forces most intimately connected with their bodily existence: the sunshine, the air they breathe, the earth beneath them, the sea, and the heavens of **Stars;** we must not wonder over-much that they know little or nothing of this inner, though more real, realm of Spirit."

This was from the Guide. Anticipating the question that was welling up from the

mind: "Why do not those on Earth know more of these spirit states, more of their own conditions spiritually?" The answer had already been given, and as we passed on the Teacher said:

"Growth, unfoldment, waiting, working."

CO-WORKERS

Among the groups and assemblages whom I met and with whom I was most frequently in communication during this surpassing sojourn were the arisen co-workers in the **"Movement"** with which my life-work has been most identified:

"SPIRITUALISM"

In the work of a life-time as a chosen "instrument" to bear "glad tidings," to promote the knowledge of spirit existence here and beyond the change called death, and the ministration from and communion with the arisen ones, I had met in outward existence every leading mind and every worker (medium) known in the Spiritualistic movement.

We were always friends, always co-workers, sisters and brothers bearing forward a great Truth. Very frequently during this wonderful visit in the realm of spirit I saw them—either alone or in smaller or larger groups, renewing the compan-

ionship that had been so beautiful and delightful when we had worked side by side in human forms.

In your memory, dear reader, or in your reading scan the lists of names who were first known as "Investigators" then as "Spiritualists," and the names of those known as MEDIUMS (there were no "Psychics" in those days.) I knew and loved them all. I met them all. Each one in spirit life is still engaged in imparting this knowledge—most important of all that human beings can receive—concerning Spiritual Truth. Existence, life, love, work beyond the change called death;

SPIRITUALISM AS A MOVEMENT,

I had ever been instructed by my Guides, was given to the world when **needed**, and when there were those upon the Earth who were ready, when the "ages were ripe" for its coming.

In spirit states of Earth and in the realms far beyond were those who knew the "day and hour" had come for "moving upon the minds of Earth with this new illumination."

There was from the "smallest" to the "greatest," from the seemingly "least" to the "most important" of the manifestations a concerted action. The "rappings" at Hydesville were no "accident," the visions of Clairvoyant and seer, the writings and

trance utterances (phenomenal) were all a part of this **Stupendous Movement.** All, all, under guidance of those wise Spirits who knew what the people of the world needed and gave it to them according to their needs.

Necessarily many extremists and "imitators" would be attracted to the subject—like driftwood following or borne upon every new current of thought—but it is safe to say that Spiritualism during the sixty-seven years since the "Rochester Knockings" has attracted the attention of more eminent minds in every department of human research (and convinced them too) and given knowledge and consolation to a greater number of people than any movement or system of knowledge in ancient or modern times. With those who are willing and anxious to be classed as Spiritualists it is **knowledge** of life beyond death—and of the presence and ministration of the beloved arisen ones.

So spoke my Guide to me and to the group of co-workers who had come forward to meet and greet me. How young and beautiful they were. Always I had noted in earth life how beautiful the dear ones are when one has been for a time absent from them—and here, in this realm of perpetual youth, with the freedom from human pain and cares that some of them had so bravely

borne, I could but note the beauty that is theirs.

In the interchange of thought and experiences with these arisen co-workers I could readily understand that being brought into direct personal relationship with their "Guides," "Inspirers," Teachers," "helpers" and with each other, they had become more and more aware of the true meaning and nature of the gifts (mediumship) that were theirs when in the form, and they realized that even those "Inspirers" and "Teachers" were also the instruments of higher and wiser Spirits.

One sister worker said to me "I always wanted to **see** my Guides, as you did, but I could not, for the gift of spirit vision was not mine. Now I understand what it means to 'see with the eyes of the Spirit' and I am satisfied."

Those who had been my most intimate co-workers had many things to tell me of their "awakening" into added perception of spiritual things and of the work assigned them in their new state of existence; still ministering, still trying to lift the veil, mostly of ignorance, that divides mortals from their arisen ones. Many were the loving messages sent to friends and loved **Companions** still in Earth life.

"Tell them you **saw** me **here** in spirit life, and I am ever near them, in response to a

thought, or wish or especially a **need**, guiding, guarding, aiding."

It seems better to receive a message from one who has "been there," who has actually **seen** and **conversed** with one's friends "face to face" and "spirit to spirit." So, in the treasure house of my spirit are stored those messages to be given whenever I meet any of those loved ones in human life to whom I was so fortunate as to bear a message. It is to them alone that the message for them can be given.

The transcendent brightness and spiritual beauty of that assemblage of spirits—from guardian spirits of relatives and friends to the wisest and most advanced that one could see, are beyond my power of language to express.

There is no formal taking of one's "place" or "position," no ceremonious "assigning" of "duty" or "work," but in groups and larger companies, as well as in personal ministrations, a mutual understanding of purpose, according to adaptation. If a united or concerted action upon earth-minds for any given purpose is needed it is readily perceived and entered upon by all who are in accord, and is performed by such methods as enlightened spirits readily understand.

Human minds are better prepared to comprehend the methods of spirit communicating with spirit since "wireless tele-

graphy" and other recent scientific wonders have been achieved, not that the **process** is similar in any degree, but being prepared for the new revealments in science also prepares impartial minds to know of the more subtle powers of the spirit. "Volition" in its highest analysis is the one attribute of the spirit by which other spirits know—through perception, what is being imparted, **but** there must ever be **accord, sympathy, adaptation.**

From some of those who had been my friends in my early life and who were "leading minds" in this cause, and in other subjects of human interest, I received many thoughts and suggestions concerning the present status of the "movement" (Spiritualism) and what they now think of the possible and desirable results of "united action,"—"organization" for the work and the workers. These and any other themes must be left for opportunity, time and strength to reveal, as my work goes on in human life.

One notes the same minds and spirits in many assemblages of the different branches of all purposes for aiding humanity. Even as when on earth the "Pioneers" in "Anti-slavery," "Equal Suffrage," "Temperance," were the same staunch body of men and women, ready now as then to respond to the call to give a voice to Truth. In the assemblies for promoting "peace" by "those

who love their fellowmen," there was the universal sentiment: "Peace must be born of Justice and Justice can only come by true Fraternity."

"My country is the world;
My countrymen all mankind."

This is the standard extending to include "All Souls."

"It seems to inhere in the very nature of **human life** that men will **fight** for: (1) Personal liberty: freedom from physical bondage and involuntary servitude; (2) For defense of those nearest and dearest enshrined in the "home"; (3) For country when it represents the "home" and those "Ideals" to which the heart ever clings."

To "remove the **Causes of War**" all selfish seeking, all aggression by any nation upon the rights of others must cease, "and this must come by growth, by enlightenment in the cardinal principles of justice, love and truth." These and many other thoughts were given forth in that assembly.

*A great wave of uprising among the **women** of all nations was predicted in favor of conditions that would "make for peace" leading to united efforts between the most enlightened men and women of all nations to the establishment of "Peace born of

*This was before the Woman's "Peace Congress" had been thought of by Earth minds.

Right—Not Might." The Peace foretold by poets and sages of all time. Yet all agree in that wonderful assemblage, that "treaties of Peace" are without avail unless the moral force of the nations—among their leaders, rulers and a majority of their people—is sufficient to dominate; and make just treaties **binding.**

As individuals are now expected to adjust their difference in Court of Law (often misnamed justice), and it is the aim of a majority of citizens not to encroach upon the real rights of others, so the time **must** come when nations will agree to a similar method in adjusting possible differences that may arise; and this much **can** come even before the real millenium of "Peace on Earth and Love to all Mankind." There must be some other International Tribunal than the battlefield! Earth, sea, and air, **must** not be held in bondage for physical carnage!

In the final "Day of Peace" even Peace Tribunals will not be needed, but now—"may Angels speed the Day of Peace born of Justice."

In most instances I could tell the personality, or human name, of each one giving forth a particular thought, and all were in accord. Alas, I could also perceive that they saw, in viewing the conditions of Earth that "the end is not yet."

I cannot mar this wonderful visit—this

respite from pain and cares of Earth by dwelling too long among the shadows, war-clouds and darkened states of Earth life. As beyond the storm clouds of Earth's nearest material atmosphere the sun always shines glorious and with resplendent brightness, so beyond the horrors of war the desolation and ravagement of nations incident thereto, beyond the storms, earthquakes, and cataclysmic throes of nature, the Sun of Spiritual Hope and Love ever shines surpassing fair, and all the Angelic and Spiritual Hosts are ready to aid, strength, succor the spirits enshrouded in time and earth conditions.

THE RETURN

More and more frequent were the summons and the visits to my mortal body, to reimbue, as it was now found possible, with my spirit, to restore with the personal presence, the body within which the vital spark had been kept alive by blessed Guardian Spirits and devoted friends on Earth.

More and more the spirit "Home friends," the Best Beloved, and the Guide encouraged the thought of my return to fulfill the appointed work on Earth. I had prayed to be allowed to remain, to let the body pass; but now, gradually it is true, the idea of resuming the human habiliments, the garb of the material body, became less

repugnant, and I finally freely said: "Yes, I will go as that is the appointed way."

Have you, dear friends, who may be reading these imperfect fragments of a **perfect experience,** (as any narrative must be) ever visited some fair garden, some sequestered home of dearest friends, a place radiant with beauty and enchantment; where there were flowers massed in rarest combinations of color and fragrance, fountains murmuring in answer to the summer winds, music, as seemed a part of the enrapturing scene; have you enjoyed this with the chosen friends that alone could make the scene sacred, the Best Beloved, And have you known the reluctance to return to the "outer world" of daily routine of care, perhaps of pain? Ah, then you know in the **smallest degree** what it meant to me to return to my bodily form!

Yet even now the soul of all that was mine in that wonderful, surpassing state is ever with me; nor will it again be absent from me—since it is enfolded in my very being. I am more complete now, even in the body which ever divides us from the Soul of Life.

"You will be with us again and often," they said; the Guide said no formal "farewells," no "leavetaking," but everywhere from every Dear and Blessed one "Blessings, Peace, Joy, and Love go with you into added Strength and Work."

And here I am: ready to help the body to grow stronger, and to **willingly, joyfully,** in the future as in the past, perform the work assigned me — **until— they — call — me — Home.**

CORA L. V. RICHMOND.

An Added Word or Two

The possibility of the spirit "leaving the body" for a time and then returning and resuming its usual activities has been demonstrated many times. In some instances the temporary separation was caused by accident, illness, states of coma induced by anesthetics, trance, either of spirit control or hypnosis, and sometimes a **voluntary absence** or activity not suspending the vital functions of the body. It is also undoubtedly true that during sleep—especially that restful, dreamless sleep that betokens a normal state of mind and body, the spirit avails itself of the opportunity of restoration by spiritual methods and activities not possible while urging the body to do its bidding. Not only Spiritualists, Psychologists and Psychic Research students have well authenticated cases of the undoubted activity of the Spirit apart from the body, but many prominent physicians have recorded their experiences with patients whose bodily functions were suspended, even to seeming dissolution, and upon the unexpected resuscitation of the subject there would be a vivid account of active experiences in spirit—usually pleasant scenes and meetings with friends long passed into

spirit life. These visits to "heaven" would be sometimes tinged with the religious bias of the subject, but this is not strange in view of the fact that **spirit states are conditions of the mind** and spirit experiencing them.

Among the most familiar popular illustrations are those narrated by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, especially by "Gail Hamilton" who, being thought "dead" returned to her body, narrated to her pastor the experiences she had during that period of suspended animation and resumed her pen, remaining in mortal life a considerable time thereafter.

Although not usual, this class of experience is not so unusual as many imagine or assert. And the writer having been from childhood accustomed to the "other state" ("Inner," "higher"), of consciousness can distinctly trace her experiences in that inner realm as forming fully a third if not one half of her life-experiences.

The "realm of spirit" in which she has so often found herself a participant is therefore, no unfamiliar realm; in fact if called upon to decide which state is the reality—the life, she would unhesitatingly say: the inner state, the super-mundane realm.

Of the many eminent men of Science in both Europe and America who have come to a knowledge of the truths of Spirit existence, continuance of life after transition,—

and the writer has known them all personally, except the one she is about to mention, —probably Sir Oliver Lodge has approached the subject of "psychic Research" (Spiritualism) with a mind the best prepared to receive (perceive) Spiritual Truth. I say this with the uttermost reverence and admiration for the long list of names—eminent alike in their personal qualities and scientific attainments, whose lives have been made brighter by a knowledge of demonstrated future existence and a belief in the Immortality of the Soul. Shall I name some of them? Hare, Mapes, Denton, Wallace, Crookes, Varley, Zollner, Flammarion—the list is almost endless.

Sir Oliver Lodge has not only recently, and very publicly, announced his full belief (knowledge) of continued personal existence beyond the change called death, but the possibility of communion with those "gone before" and the certainty that he had personal evidence beyond cavil or doubt, proofs indubitable, of the presence of and communication with his particular friends, but—and this is the point I wish to emphasize—in his earlier utterances on this subject he said in effect: "When I become aware that the human spirit while still animating the body, or not released by death, has such surpassing powers, 'telepathy,' 'voluntary action' apart from the body, showing conclusively that the activ-

ities of the mind are not dependent upon the physical organism—I concluded there must be evidence to show that the spirit can and does survive the body." This and much more was in his published statements concerning his investigations in connection with Psychic Research—showing that he approached the subject not only from the "effect to cause" line of usual scientific investigation, but had already in his quickened perception the vivification of a-priori knowledge leading from "cause to effect."

One would like to accumulate and set down in condensed manner all the available evidences of "absence from the body"—of which the writer has a large and increasing store, but this writing is more distinctly in the form of a message for this particular time.

With our "other world" within and about us, moving "like wings of light on dark and stormy air," with such unused, wonderful powers , what wonder that one having partaken of the bounties of that inner realm longs to awaken the "sleeping" spirits of those in human life—or, more correctly speaking, tear aside the veil and show how wonderful are the dormant powers within each person: Soul-powers more active, perhaps, than any are aware! Who can tell, until the film of mental blindness is removed, how great may be the works accomplished by the spirit when the body

sleeps, when one is "absent minded," or when thinking intently of a particular friend, one finds at that very day and hour the friend had "passed away"?

It is of the "Substance that dreams are made" that we shall ultimately find our divinest realities, our very lives are fashioned.

This narrative of "experiences while out of my body" is only a prelude to those vaster heights, those more inner scenes that I hope sometime to be able to record: The Symphony is Life itself whose theme of Love is Endless, Endless, Endless.

—The Author.

MY EXPERIENCES WHILE OUT OF MY BODY AND MY RETURN AFTER MANY DAYS

BY

REV. CORA L. V. RICHMOND

PART II.

THE REALM CELESTIAL

DEDICATED
TO THE ANGELS

MY EXPERIENCES WHILE OUT OF MY BODY AND MY RETURN AFTER MANY DAYS

Part II.

THE REALM CELESTIAL

"Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavily laden and I will give you rest."

One may have seen the rarest tints of earth—mornings empurpling the gray dawn in the eastern sky, changing to crimson and golden hues, diffusing the glory until the whole atmosphere and the earth seemed to glow with consciousness of their own loveliness—ere yet the full orbed splendor of the Chariot of Phoebus blazed o'er the horizons verge; one may have seen in many lands, amid all beautieous scenes, the same Day-Splendor sink to rest amid the encircling cloud-bursts that ever bear him company, or in ocean billows when the Cavalry of Neptune toss their white manes until jeweled by the wondrous coloring, or behind mountain ranges see him descend into gorgeous caverns of gold, outrivaling all the fabled palaces of Oriental Kings, illumining the shadow sides and filling the ravines with amethystine lines, or on the

far plains and deserts one may have marked the vast orb drop suddenly from sight, without a cloud-curtain of fold of tinted atmosphere and note all at once that the light of stars had come; but whether it were jeweled morning—new from the Creators, (ever new, ever old)—or eventide with its tents and whisperings of Paradise, that which was now shown—or experienced—so far exceeded in its surpassing and transcendent beauty the most ravishing scenes of Earth that the latter, if remembered then, would seem as shadows —almost as naught.

THE VALE OF DELIGHT

Even, as when the Pilgrim,* who in his journeyings was beginning to know the true victory, came to the **Delectable Mountains,** so in this intervale I was angel led into scenes of such transcendent beauty that neither brush of genius-artist nor pen of most gifted poet could ever hope to portray them!

A Vale of such ravishing beauty, such loveliness as has never been dreamed of or imagined by mortals, encircled by mountains of grandeur and majesty, whose lights seemed a part of the heavens, or crowned with fleecy cloud pictures—or visaging

*Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress.

temples of rarest proportions and perfection, pavilions, domes, terraces — or rising sheer unto the very sky. All tinted and toned by the glory of the **Light** that was everywhere. Adown the mountain slopes were wonderful forests, mingling their verdure in the subdued light of the intervening vales; for down the slopes and along the valley were most beautiful flowers of every unknown form and hue unknown to human sight having no earthly names, their loveliness and fragrance greeting one on every side.

THE RIVER OF DELIGHT

Along the valley flows a stream whose sources are in the far mountain heights —from crystaline springs and dancing rivulets—**life giving**, murmuring most musically—as they hasten to become merged in this rare River, the glory and wonder of this Vale of Wonders.

In the translucent depths of the stream were mirrored the sky, the mountains—the clouds, the trailing branches along the shore, or where the waters were broken in their flowing the images changed in the reflection until they seemed like dream-pictures of all the enchanting scene. Along the stream floated flower-barges, bearing groups of joyous beings whose voices of song and rippling laughter blended with the

monody of waters and breezes and with the rapturous songs of birds of such forms and tones as are unknown on Earth. The very Soul of Joy seemed to here abide and pervade every living thing. Adown the vale among the flowers and fronds of fern like —bordering the River were other groups of beings so radiant, so illumined with joy from within that one could not recall in their presence that "shadows" and "cares" had ever been.

These were Souls who have "come up through great tribulations" and are now in possession of the "peace that passeth understanding" in this transcendent Vale: the peace that they have now. Bathed in the pure waters of the River of Delight the last vestages of Earth-shadows depart.

Within the innermost of this Vale is the home of

THE ANGEL OF DELIGHT: DELECTA—DELECTON.

Here are Souls who as mortals and spirits were the particular charge of this Angel.

The entrance to the sequestered shrine of the Angel is almost hidden by enwreathing garlands of ever-blooming flowers; all the blossoms of beauty that here abound o'er arching, concealing yet inviting into the inner Shrine.

At the loving, unspoken mandate of the

Angel, the flower-gates open and those who are one with the Angel may enter.

The ineffable delight, the surpassing peace of this Vale is manifest in its every scene of rarest beauty, in every form and hue of loveliness and chiefly, in the joyous beings that here have found rest, respite, peace, who once were o'er-weary, and who won their peace by victory from within. From this peaceful realm they go forth on their missions of Peace and Joy and Love.

Far down the Vale the winding and winding River flows on and out beyond the receding mountains to a dazzling Realm—lost in the brightness, merged in the Greater Beyond.

As the Angel Guide led the way mountains, clouds, forests, valleys, flowers, forms of joyous Beings, the Vale and River of Delight were merged in the Vastness the unlimitation of a more wonderful Realm.

"He maketh His Angels Spirits; His Ministers a flaming fire",—Bible.

"Those who are truly married on Earth are in Heaven One Angel."—Swedenborg.

THE KINGDOM CELESTIAL

If that which mortals name "Light" of suns, planets, stars, moons, or all the Concentrated Electrical brilliance was known

or even "Radium" **is** "Light," then that into which the Angel Guide led, that which was overwhelmingly revealed and partly perceived was something so infinitely **more** in its Glory that a **new name** must be fashioned out of the language of the Soul for that revealing the **Kingdom Celestial.**

Nothing can better describe the ineffable glory into which we entered than the words of one of old:

"The Light of God."

The Souls as revealed in this state **are the Light** of the **Realm Celestial.**

THE CELESTIAL COMPANY

Those comprising this Realm seem like another order of beings than those with whom one had freely mingled and communed in the spirit States of Earth and even in the Vale of Delight, but they are those who once were mortals "Spirits of the just made perfect."

There was no abrupt contrast or change from the highest spirit states, yet this Realm differed in a vastness, a glory, that became more and more surpassing wonderful. Although the states merge and mingle one seemed to be saying in passing **through** the Vale of Delight. "We leave the Spirit states, we enter the Angelic state."

The Beings that compose the Celestial Company are each and all **ensphered** in

their own brightness, each revealed as an illuminated sphere having a particular radiance all its own.

These Spheres seem unapproachable, unbroken except where from within the luminous orb divides or seems to include one in its Aura-sphere.

It came to the consciousness, by perception or knowledge from previous teachings, that these Aura-spheres are the Angels: the completed, the perfected lives; divided in manifestation on Earth and in Spirit-states, united here.

Oh! With what rapturous thrill came this knowledge! **The perception of the Angels as they are in their own States of Being!**

These perfect orbs of Light meet and mingle in Divine accord yet each perserves the distinct individuality.

As we entered into that Celestial Company the Angel Guides, who had companioned and instructed during all the experiences in the spirit states, became also ensphered. **One Angel: the** previously noted dual expression became one orb of radiant beauty!

Thus was borne to the consciousness that the Angels when manifesting to those in spirit states or to those in human life appear in separate forms (man or woman as the case requires) and that the forms may be in appearance or personality those last

known on Earth. This apparent division is, however not real; one endowed with higher vision and insight can see (or perceive) the ensphereal Angels **even** during the manifestations of the Angels to spirits or mortals.

Most absorbing and wonderful was the revealment concerning the

GUARDIAN ANGELS

of those in Earth life and in the spirit states immediately following transition:

Those on Earth who are aware of receiving messages and ministrations from spirits usually (quite naturally) expect such messages to come from the spirits of loved ones who have "gone before", the dear ones of the household who become the loving **Guardian Spirits** of those left in the Earth-home, and this is blessed and beautiful.

Sometimes, however a message is given from a "higher spirit" and is received with great awe and reverence. Beyond and above the ministering **Spirits** is the Guardian Angel of a group to which each member of the group belongs by adaptation.

All people are members of some group according to enfoldment and adaptation.

The Guardian Angels know and appoint the Guardian or ministering spirits according to adaptation, and the Angels are aware

all that pertains to the lives of those whom they guard and guide; they know the heretofore and the hereafter of those lives.

"Let it not be supposed, however, that either Guardian Spirits or Guardian Angels (Angel Guides) govern human destinies; they advise, assist, admonish, aid, instruct, strengthen and inspire, but the **governing power** is the **Infinite** and directly reaches the Individual Soul from within," thus said the Guide.

Some of those previously seen as Spirits among the various assemblages in spirit states, particularly among those who "love their fellow men," were now perceived as **Angels;** both potentialities (seen before as man and woman) now merged in one.

In all ministrations to those in the not-yet-united spirit or human states, the angels thus appear—as previously written—in separate forms.

The appearance of "Angels" as "men" to the ancient Prophets and Seers, the pictured or carved images of Angels in works of Genius. (Ideals of surprising and wonderful beauty thus imaged), bear witness to the **Power of Angelic Beings to manifest in human similitude** according to the needs of those to whom they manifest and minister.

But not all the aids of the imagination, quickened by Genius and Inspiration can approach any adequate portraiture, either by tongue, pen, brush or chisel; (Milton, Dante,

Leonardo; Correggio; Guido; **Angelo;** all the throng of geniuses), of the Angels as they are in their own Realm, a Realm not "fashioned" but "eternal in the Heavens"!

How perfect they are!
They are that Realm!

While in that state and contemplating the wonders of Angelic Power there seemed an adequate interpretation of the Biblical text "He maketh His angels spirits, His ministers a flaming fire." This explaining that the Angels appear in spirit states or to those in Earth-life to whom they minister **as Spirits,** because, although not divided as the angel, each one so appearing in human guise (man or woman) thus manifest to the **condition** of those to whom the ministration is given, but the Aura-sphere of the angel is not broken.

The "Surpassing light" the glory that is described by the poet in the vision of **Abou-ben Adhem** might be more often perceived if human lives were not so much engrossed in earthly things; yet the **"thrill"**—the **"cool celestial breath,** the illumination and exaltation which one is sometimes aware of experiencing in earthly form during crises are evidences from that Inner Realm of

The Presence of the Angel.

In their own Realm where the Angels meet and mingle in perfect, divine accord the "appearance" is indescribable.

Light! Harmony!

No human language is in the smallest degree adequate to portray the ecstasy produced by the vision, contemplation of perception of this all-glorious state! Orb on orb of transcendent beauty, sphere on sphere of celestial splendor!

Harmony:

If that is **music heard** on Earth when one endowed with the gift of voice and genius to use it in vocalizing some rarest composition of other genius, or that which is heard when the master musician touches the chords of some perfect instrument, or when the orchestra, led by a master mind and hand produces the wonders of master composers, then this, **this** is something that must have only a Celestial name.

The Glorifying **Soul** of **Harmony,** I weep, since words must fail!

These are the Beings that move upon the less luminous realms of Spirit and earth states. These are the Angels who are the glory and harmony of all this

Beautiful Realm

"As one star differeth from another," not in the Angelhood, but in the Individuality of Being; in the appointed work, so do they differ.

In their several spheres they meet, mingle and commune in mutual accord, each and

all intent upon the accomplishment of some supreme purpose, as appointed: Some ministration to those who are their particular charge, who are passing through the states.

THE ETERNAL EGO

This **Individuality** is Eternal; is the **Ego** of which the small **personality** of earth and even of the spirit states is but a **fragment** of **manifestation.**

These Angels have Great Knowledge, but not **All** knowledge; great **power,** but not **all** power. They have the perfect unity of the **Love** and **Wisdom** of the **Perfected Souls** of earth. They know all that relates to the earth; its past, its present, its future; particularly all that relates to those lives of whom they are the Guides, the Guardian Angels.

THEIR WORK

Angels are intent on missions of vast import connected with groups of Angels, with spirits, with "themes" that form the "Movements" or great "Reforms" on earth; the subjects or "Ideals" that are the stepping stones (or more properly speaking, the indices) of Human Progress.

When the time is ripe where it is the "Day and the Hour" groups of these shin-

ing ones, these Resplendent ones, move upon the spirits in spirit states of earth that are ready for the appointed work and they in turn move upon the prepared minds of Earth. At such times the Angel of the movement may appear on Earth in human form. In times of great stress, like that which preceded the war that brought the downfall of Chattel Slavery in the United States; or like the present fearful conflict* that involves more than half the nations of the earth, the Angels move upon spirits and mortals to forward the "Highest Ideals" to point to "a more excellent way" for human Liberty and advancement. Thus is every **"great cause"** begun and borne forward.

Even if one could bring from that Realm Divine all that one is permitted to know while there, illumined by the **Angels who know**, one is not permitted to reveal, in fact one **cannot bring** into human consciousness, the knowledge that belongs to that higher state until people are ready.

In the narrow limitations of human existence one cannot see as do the Angels, which **is** "the better way" leading to lasting Peace born of **Justice, Liberty, Fraternity,** yet one must know, even in the shadows of Time and Sense, that those who fight for Justice and Freedom in the highest sense fight for Humanity.

In that Radiant Realm in that surpass-

*This was written in 1915.

ing state where perfect Love and Wisdom reign, where no shadow **can** abide, one seems to feel that the perfect perfect day of Peace is at the very gates of the world.

Sometime it will be so.

Ensphered in their own Light ever in the Light of the Infinite, these resplendent Beings from the **Realm Celestial.**

(Sphere on Sphere of Splendors meeting interblending, dispersing) move upon souls in need. Each enfolded in a beauty all its own all ensphered in the glory of that perfect state utterly baffling any possible description! How can such vistas of Heavenly Beings be described? In what terms or forms of language can these glorious scenes be depicted? Color? Tint and love from which all beauties of earth's manifold shadings might have been borrowed? The **pure White Light of the Soul.**

Music? A Rapture of Harmony whence Orpheus and Apollo might have brought to Parnassus the first sound of Music? Or was it the "pipings of sweet Pan" that first enchained all earth creatures to music's enthrallment? The **perfect Silence of the Soul.**

All beautiful scenes of nature all Temples, palaces, cathedrals of rarest human art, fall away into nothingness amid the unlimitations the unfashioned the "Not Made with hands":

THE "LIVING TEMPLES" ARE THE ANGELS OF GOD.

Sometimes the Angel-inspired poet of earth perceives glimpses of these glorious things—they weave themselves into the magic of his songs, and from the shadow-language of earth he forms the Epic of the skies; they crowd in manifold splendors through the empurpled gates of the sunset clouds with interblending tints and hues and forms of loveliness and the inspired artist catches from mountain brow and cloud pavilion a **suggestion** of somewhat that the glory of the Angel Realm might mean! Aye more often the **lone watcher** by the couch of a suffering one—one who is being released from pain and sorrow—ah—then and there the **pure white light** of the Angel fills the lowly chamber, pervades the encompassing atmosphere of earth shadows and makes of the hour of mortal agony a Supreme Triumph!

One can thus readily realize that the Angels do not remain continually apart in their ensphered joy, aware **only** of their **own** Divine Estate.

THE PERFECT STATE OF BEING IS ALSO THE PERFECT STATE OF DOING

Angels meet and mingle for added know-

ledge, added power to bear forward the **great purposes** of the Infinite; to aid those whom they are appointed to guard, teach, and guide. Nor are they ever **away** from the Kingdom Celestial. They are that Kingdom; whenever and wherever there is work to do,

THERE IS HEAVEN

Whenever an Angel approaches to aid one or many who are in spirit states (or earth forms,) the Angel seems to emerge from the ensphering brightness in two forms—as previously written: The perfect man, the perfect woman, and although never separated in purpose or work the manifestation of the two is an adaptation to the condition or state of those to whom the ministration is given.

During the visits to this Angel's Realm one becomes aware that many, the most "Reluctant" ones the "Shining" ones, whom one had seen in spirit states as spirits were now, in their own Realm, Angels. Among the spirits, in their separate personalities, they were centers of groups of Shining ones who "love their fellow men" and who in Earth forms had led the Advance Guard of "Pioneers in human progress". Rarely can one in human existence perceive the angel so embodied, but oh, what rapture thus while in their Realm to know with

more and more awakened perception and understanding that those who have been ones ideals in human life are among the Angels of Light.

In this Realm "Time" and "Space" (all the limitations of matter) are naught; therefore "to be present" Angels do not "wing their way" through leagues upon leagues of space to minister to those whom they guard and guide, nor does it mean that to "enter" the presence of the Angels in their own Realm (as far as one who is still linked with the earth form can be thus received) one must be "borne through space" for thousands and thousands of leagues.

As the Kingdom of heaven is within", so those of the Angelic State flash their "presence" their ministrations to those for whom they are intended. And instantaneously (simultaneously) the "message" is received by the one or many for whom it is intended (those in accord with the Angel.)

Nothing in the Service of Physicists or even the comparatively profound departments of "Psychic Research' can illustrate this perfection of Angelic Ministration.

In their perfect state the Supreme reality is Soul, the volition of the spirit becomes the illuminating force to reach those in any state. (Spirits, appointed by the Angel receive and convey it by adaptation) but those prepared receive it as it comes from

the Angel—simultaneously with the Volition of the Angel—this is the "word" the "Logos."

This partly explains to our dull and feeble human comprehension the oft noted fact that true inspiration never is evolved by any mental process, but seems to flash at once into the consciousness of the one inspired from the Inner (Higher) Realm. When, however, the ministration is to reach one or many on earth through the agency of ministering spirits, as is usually the case those spirits are chosen who are prepared by adaptation to receive the messages from the Angel and communicate them to those on earth for whom they are intended.

These stages of adaptation show the wisdom of the Heavenly Kingdom not only in imparting knowledge but to impart only that for which the recipients are ready. This latter statement reveals more perfectly the wisdom of the skies:

What to withhold is often more important than what to give, so limited is the range of human comprehension so feeble the glimmerings of scarcely awakened spiritual perception.

"I have many things to tell you but ye cannot bear them now."

"Why can't I know now"? Grown-up children are familiar with the illustrations of the "pint cup" will not hold a quart of water; "simple arithmetic before geom-

etry;" every human parent and teacher must say often and again! "Wait until you are older," meaning mentally as well as physically; yet human beings arrayed in their own shadows of self-importance metaphorically challenge the skies and say! "If the Angels know why don't they tell us"? But the people of earth are told, every day, every hour, the messages go forth, ever and anon, in clarion tones or in soft voiced whisperings the messages of the Angels are declared, the truths are announced, but only those receive or perceive them who are awakened, who are ready.

Who sees the glory flaring in the sunset sky? Who hears the voice of the child upon the street sobbing because of cold and hunger? Not the man interested only in "business" pursuits, not the woman whose only thought is "success in society" because of her wealth and adornments.

Neither God nor the Angels ever accepted a challenge like this:

"If God and the Angels know why do they not tell us"

In their Kingdom of Love and Wisdom, of Knowledge because of Love and Wisdom, all that is valuable and important to know—as far as this planet is covered, is a part of the possessions of the Angels; and here from whence all real activities toward and upon the earth proceed, the doing is not accompanied by the indecision as to method,

time and place, as is the case even among the skillful experimenters of earth, for here we learn that all that is usually considered "doing something" in earth-life is but the preparation, the growth toward the state of these Angelic Beings who do because they know.

Block houses for the babies; palaces churches, prisons for children of older years; lispings of baby lips to frame human speech, questionings, laughter, quaint remarks and crude performances of growing children are but illustrations, in degree, of the equally imperfect crude and incomplete efforts of grown-up children and nations. All these stages and conditions of growth have their final solution here in this **Super-Real Realm.**

THE ANGELS HASTE NOT THEY DO NOT DELAY: When the lives that are enfolding form within **are ready** the Angels know and perform their work according to the needs of those in their charge.

How transcendently great is THE WORK OF THE ANGELS! People often say in human life, people who consider themselves "intelligent" "brilliant of mind": "If the Angels have such Knowledge and power why do they not stay the hand of the criminal, why do they not stop this cruel war?" or some other human—that appeals to them as most important. They do not yet fully understand that each soul em-

bodied on earth must "work out its own salvation", aided, of course by all the helps the Infinite has provided.

How little is known by mortals of what the **Angels really do** Unknowingly as a babe receives the care and protection of the loving parents so do human lives receive appropriate to their own uses, but seldom **recognize** the angelic blessings that are the soul of their daily existence. "Having eyes they see not, having ears they hear not" and having minds they do not understand the works of the Angels that are all around them; The Angels "call" and none hear except the **few**; the Angels "appear" yet none save those who are illumined, see the stupendous works of the Angels moving forward to accomplishment, the ages alone reveal them to the slowly awakening and unfolding minds of Earth. But all people must grow by experience, they must gain victory by **winning it.**

There are, indeed, aids—temporary moral and Spiritual **helps, Angelic crutches** for those in states of moral and spiritual deformity, yet these states like all other imperfections are to be outgrown from within by overcoming. Divine pity and compassion certainly do abide and are given in Angel Ministration. Through every stage of human lack of enfoldment there is ever the helpfulness from all the lives that have **won the Victory!** Admonitions, warn-

ings, instruction. Ah when the "Inner Way" is opened by actual growth how clear and plain the path appears that was tangled and "over grown" when one did not know that the **voice from within** is the voice of the Angel, the voice of the Soul. Thus each climbs to the **attainment**, to Angelhood by all the steps of **Self Conquest.**

A MIGHTY PURPOSE

Attention was drawn to a Company of Angelic Beings, Spheral Splendors that formed a Constellation of rarest radiance, moving upon a vast number of mortals and spirits for a mighty purpose.

No wonders of a "Night of Stars" seen in the firmament above the earth, no constellation of Sons beheld through distances innumerable and through earth-enshrouded atmosphere: belted Orion, Cassiopeid, Andromeda, ah, those systems of Suns fade before the glory of that Resplendent Company, radiating its all-potent influence upon those in Spirit and human states who were prepared to receive it.

Even these Angels of Earth and Celestial Kingdom, although moved upon by those more Transcendently Glorious Beings, cannot know their full splendor, much less can one enshrouded in earth form and surrounded by earth scenes, attempt to describe their majesty and power!

That which was shown was a **Work of**

Wonder; so vast, so far-reaching, that it seemed the very Highest Heavens had opened to **unite the Heavens and the Earth!** The vast Angel Company poured its **Light** upon those who were to receive it, through the Angelic states of Earth, through those in spirit states that could be illumined, to **One** upon the Earth, wearing the human form who had gathered such lives as were ready; these with one accord, Angels, Spirits, those in human forms and the **One** who was their leader, were moved upon by that all-conquering Angelic Power.

Those upon Earth who were thus prepared were borne to the heights of Enthusiasm and of **doing;** the realization of an all-time **Dream,** an Ideal of the Ages; others in human life,, **half turned** to the glory but were sad because they could not follow; others mockingly derided the theme and the Workers—yet, far within, knowing its truth; while larger numbers did not even know of the theme, the Movement, nor the Workers.

AH, THE ANGELS KNEW

They did pour out the "Flaming Fire" of their Truth through the states of Angels, Spirits, Mortals who were ready! And they are **succeeding! The Work is to be Accomplished!**

As written in the foregoing, those in the shadow states do not even know when such a "Movement" is in existence.

Lives of the All-Glorious Light, tracings of the perfect Beauty, intertwining, interlacing, interblending and pervading the lives of the Illuminated Ones indicate, to those who can **perceive,** the **Stupendous Work** that is being borne forward. Sometimes a work is accomplished with a

MIGHTY SWIRL

A purpose and power that sweep in and through the lives of persons, of a people, or of nations; or a portion of the people among all the nations of the Earth. In such a "Movement" there is a great upheaval, a tottering and falling of Kingdoms and thrones (of Kings and Rulers) and a

Great Day Dawn for Humanity

"The former things pass away"; the "New Heavens and the New Earth" appear.

AN EMBODIED ANGEL

I beheld a **shaft of Light** extending from the Angelic state to one in Earth-form; endowed with such wonderful gifts that all the elements of Earth and air seemed obedient to his command.

He ever worked in harmony with the "laws of Nature" where those laws were known, but in his higher range of activity of mind and spirit he revealed other "laws" and more subtle elements not previously

known, and he knew the way to apply them to the uses of his fellow mortals. As he worked I beheld the higher Angelic Source of his illumination, sending a radiance and splendor of such transcendent Light and Power that I marveled that it did not penetrate even the dull human vision of those who were near him in human forms. Yet the future years, perhaps ages, alone can reveal all the **wonderful work** of the **wonderful Life.**

HIGHER AND STILL HIGHER!

There are **degrees** of Angelic states in the Heavens of the Earth, and these were perceived to extend in vast encircling spheres of Glorified Beings (onward—upward—inward—outward?) until they meet and are merged in some degree with SUPERIOR BEINGS FROM A MORE ADVANCED PLANET of our Solar System.

While the more advanced Angels of Earth and of the Higher Estate never seem to live and work in a **reflected glory,** but are their own light; living, working **in** the **radiance** and **through** them Knowledge from those still **Higher** states, those **more perfect** ones who move upon and illuminate the shining Angels of Earth, and **far, FAR, FAR** in the innermost and UTTERMOST states of ARCH ANGELS must be those who hold

THE KEYS OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNIVERSE!

The Angel Guide (Mother Love, Father Wisdom) ever in these ecstatic experiences drew one more and more into the

WORK OF THE ANGELS.

For, as previously written, in that Realm is the **Origin** of all real **Work.** Things which must be solved or attempted in the human state in the **Experimental Crises** of Experience are here solved in the Divine Alembic of the Soul (Love and Wisdom) are **possessions.**

"Problems" that must be "computed" in the one perfect Science of Earth (Mathematics) are **known** in the Angel state. Even in the imparted light or perception awakened by the Angel Guide one found it possible to perceive that the "perplexing problems" of the human state **are solved;** indeed they **are not.** The Angel way is the **only** way of release from them, and we have the assurance that all Souls find that way by GROWTH FROM WITHIN: Conquest, Victory, Attainment! All this is perfectly clear and plain when one is in the unclouded, uncontaminated, (and unconditioned) Light of that Realm Radiant, but cannot be known when one is passing through the Shadows of Earth Experiences.

A Splendor drew us by that attraction

instantly known to the Angel Guide. The ensphering radiance enfolded us and I was enabled to perceive.

THE ANGEL OF A CAUSE known on Earth; One who through opposition, obloquy and persecution carried forward a GREAT WORK on and on to fulfillment. Even in Earth-life and spirit state one could realize the majesty and beauty of such a life; its simplicity, its singleness of purpose; its humility yet its wonderful Power in the exposure of WRONG, in the presentation of RIGHT. One fain would follow the impulse of John upon Patmas when he beheld the Angel in the Apocalyptic vision, fall down and worship, but one must "worship God." The communion thus invited was of those Great and Vital themes that now engage the Angel and the Group of Shining Ones who are bearing them forward in the Spirit and Earth states. When thus illuminated and inspired in the Sphere of the

REAL WORKERS

How one longs to hasten with "swift sandalled feet" to bear the Divine Message to the world: The Love and Wisdom that mean Justice, Freedom, Fraternity, Peace, but one is admonished.

The Angels can Work.

The Angels can Wait.

They **perceive**, they **know**, they **do**. They

are not discouraged, they are unafraid, undismayed—that human awakening and progress seem **so Slow.** In that Transcendent state and its Baptismal Communion one knows that a **day,** a **century,** an **age** of earthly time count as naught in the Soul's Eternity!

Thus one becomes approximately able to perceive Group after Group of these Celestial Beings, these Refulgent Ones, and to know the themes and wonders of the works they perform. The mists that enshroud earth minds, the dimness of the spiritual perception of most of those immersed in "Time" and "Sense", in preoccupation by material **things** do not permit even a suggestion of what those themes and works might be. But all will be fulfilled when enfoldment and growth make ready the human lives that are to receive them.

Sphere upon Sphere, unnumbered Hosts of Orbed Splendors! (If the senses **could** be used how they would fail! Eyes would be blinded, ears could not hear; and the mind which is adjusted to Earth's limitations would falter and fail upon the very verge of its attempt to understand!)

If **Beauty** is **form** and **color** then would it utterly vanish before the **Soul of it,** and rarest Symphonies of Earth Music would be discord and sink away in the Divine RAPTURE OF CELESTIAL HARMONY! Although not **of** it one could, in some degree

know its uneffable, ecstatic delight, all born of the

Love which is **Being**..
Wisdom which is **Doing.**

A LIGHT FROM BEYOND

From beyond the farthermost, uttermost of those Angelic States that one was permitted to perceive or of which one could have perception, there was a flashing of

SUPER-LIGHT

So intensely brilliant so far more transendently Radiant that in its glory even the highest Angelic States of Earth seemed dim, and from the Earth, even from one in human form a similar brilliance responded illuminating the Angels with an added glory. "This revealed the Guide" is a message from Mars. As you have been taught the Angel and Spirit states of Mars are as far in advance of the Spirit and Angel states of Earth as is the planet and as are its inhabitants superior in enfoldment to those of Earth."

"The dazzling Line of Light perceived, revealed a life embodied in Earth form for a particular Work. it was a message from an Angel of MARS, to one (also from MARS, thus embodied, Angels of Earth are

made participants in such messages and work, when they are prepared and appointed by the higher ones to aid that work; but if Angels of Earth are not ready and have no part in the work they may not even know the message is Sent. (So explained the Angel Guide) 'that which one might, if aided, perceive as **"light"**, to those in this Realm who are chosen for the work would be the Message—the communication." Higher and still Higher; Inner and still more Inner; Resplendence crowning Resplendence! If human vision falls and fails before the noonday brightness of the sun of our Solar System, what must befall even the Innermost perception when such All-Glorious states of Being are even partly revealed? How more than doubly futile any attempt at portraying the added glory of those more perfect states! What language, what **thought** can reveal those Celestial Beings who were moving upon Angelic states of Earth, and upon a mighty Life on Earth for a mighty Work?

OTHER PLANETS

"No human Spirit, whether embodied or in spirit states of Earth, can be made to know (understand) the states of those in spirit or Angel spheres of planets more advanced than Earth; even MARS, next in the order of planets (from the sun) beyond Earth is

so superior in Spiritual unfoldment that only the highest Angels of Earth can perceive and receive somewhat of the ministrations from that Realm. **There are no terms** yet existing in the continually increasing Vocabulary of Earth-Scientists to express even the material conditions of that planet, much less are there words thoughts or mental perceptions capable of conveying or even **imagining** the spirit and angel states of the **higher** planets beyond the orbit of Mars."

(Even as I write these feeble words, the brilliant radiance of Jupiter is gleaming in the sky—and over the southeastern horizon Sirius—that distant sun of splendor glows and scintillates with such radiance that one trembles to even **dream** what are the Kingdoms of Divine Intelligences associated with those higher planets —and **still higher;** those far distant Suns that can transform even the sky of earthly vision into such a dome of Wonder!) The Angel Guide had said, and the teaching had been previously given, that the chosen (prepared) Angels of Earth may know the import of the message that some messenger from Mars gives to Earth when there is need and preparation on Earth for the message to be given. Sometimes, during a rare period like that herein seen, such a messenger visits the Earth in **human guise.**

We have no key in mortal life to reveal

the **personality** of the messenger from Mars who may be in our midst, but the **(shaft of) "light"** that was shown in this vision was so unlike that of any of the Angels of Earth; scintillating, flashing, gleaming in the dim night of Earth's beclouded spiritual atmosphere such resplendence as seems to belong to the planet itself when seen through the clearest physical atmosphere that Earth ever knows. Such was that line of light shown in this overwhelming vision connecting One on Earth with One in the Martian Spheres. "A Martian is embodied in Earth-form at the present time. No human being, no Spirit of Earth, none but the Angels who are aiding in the work being performed by that

VISITANT FROM MARS

can know the personality of that one, nor can they know the work being accomplished. A group of Earth's Angels who are aiding in that work are also in human forms. They are linked with the Higher Angels in Earth's Celestial Kingdom and receive the messages that are to bear forward the work.

A MARTIAN NEVER FAILS

(Except in some supreme illustration that is to show the **Success of Failure.**)

The time, the Earth, and the condition of

the people are ready when the Martian appears, whether he comes as a **Nemesis** or as a MESSENGER of Peace and JOY. "Thus spake the Angel Guide.

Supreme as were the states revealed in this entire experience, how paltry seem the things so engrossed to human lives; struggles, warfare, self-seeking; aims of pride, ambition and the weak and vapid things named "mirth" and "pleasure; all seem like the petty bickerings and play of little children that the kindly teachers and loving parents are called upon to adjust. Yet even in these infantile conditions—alike of children and people—are enfolded the future of each spirit, the coming forth of the soul, with outward activity and triumph and the ultimate expression of the Angel.

"No one" the Guide further explained "can light an earth-taper in the glorious radiance of Mars or of the Angel Realm of earth and hope to find by searching for this Resplendent Being now embodied upon earth; the "honest man" whom the ancient philosopher sought might be more easily discovered. As in a dungeon long closed the vapors extinguish an external light, so this heavenly brightness can be seen only by those whose aura-sphere is their own light and these can illumine from within and perceive from Kingdoms Transcendent the Luminous One abides in the dark and noisome atmosphere of Earth."

One having seen a glimpse of the "light" of that state might know the "light", were it shown when one is in the human state; but that cannot be.

The "Line of Light" from the Martian sphere of souls to one on the earth served as an illustration that the transmission of messages to **prepared lives** from **prepared ministrants** is unbroken, cannot be disturbed by any surrounding or, intermediate mental or spiritual states. In fact the message is instantaneous, and can only reach the one to whom it is sent.

Ah! how futile is the pen, how inadequate human language, how small and circumscribed the scope of earthly power to portray even a suggestion of these supernal states! The words indeed are here; but the essence, the soul of the experience is untranscribable!

To have been thus at the very portals, within the ante-chamber of the Inner Shrine of the Kingdom Celestial, to know that the **"Holy of Holies"** is there—just within, and to realize that the words and sentences, of these pages are not telling, **cannot tell** that which was unfolded and enfolded in the enrapturing, ecstatic spheres of "Light," that every step toward attainment such as the Angels know must be from within, and to realize that even the permitted Vision and, visitation is **an adaptation**! Ah, dearly beloved friends who read these imperfect

pages—remember; one cannot describe the **Kingdom Celestial.**

Yet even as one ever must return in thought, in sweetest and fondest reminiscence to the scenes most beautiful, the occasions most dear and sacred, in earth-life, so one cannot fail to return—it is an abiding ever-presence,—to the ineffable this beatific experience and try to impart somewhat of the Soul **of it** to those who read these pages, perfectly well aware that nothing of its glory can be portrayed, but that which the reader brings is the beauty that will be received.

This Kingdom forever abides, is the primal and final possession of all Souls; is the Innermost and Uttermost of that, which follows the struggle with the conquest over time and sense, is **Divine attainment.**

The artist of earth is baffled when he attempts to reproduce or suggest the gorgeous sunset; the tints and tones and cloud-pictures change and fade before he can even put his brush to canvas; the **mind picture** above remains, but—here, here in this Realm of Divine Realities where the **Soul** of **All Beauty is** forever and ever "eternal in the Heavens," all that is perfect abides forever and ever, and is of God; of the Soul! One must not despair if human language fails, if it were adequate, if it **could** portray these themes, then the perfect, the Divine, the eternal **would not be!**

These experiences were for respite, for instruction, and to bear to mortals as far as feeble human power would permit.

THE MESSAGE OF THE ANGELS

Ever, ever is that message at the doors of human life, alas! too often unheeded.

THE SUPREME MESSAGE IS, THAT THE ANGELS, IN THEIR STATE OF PERFECT LOVE AND WISDOM ARE UNCONSCIOUS OF THEIR SURPASSING SPLENDOR.

Attainment of perfections knows no **self-laudation,** self-praise, self-congratulation.

Divine Compassion, perfect helpfulness in the time, place and to the condition needed, aid to spirits and mortals by the perfect plan of adaptation. These are their manifestations of perfection.

The higher and more perfect the Angels, the greater is their knowledge, their commiseration and pitying Love for those amid the shadows, and proportionately great the joy, of **Being** and **Doing**....

The next Great Message brought with me to the outer world is:

ANGELS CAN WORK:
ANGELS CAN WAIT.

So simple is the illustration that "he who runs may read:"

The seed is sown by the farmer in the best soil under the best conditions available, (according to his knowledge) he cannot force the growth; he must wait for sunshine and shadow and rain to cause the seeds to germinate and grow and "ripen unto the harvest." "Doing something" to that field of grain would mar or destroy it.

Another illustration, familiar in our human states: the child is taught the rudiments of expression of whatever knowledge is adapted to the child. It would be worse than folly to try to teach that which is beyond the growth of the child—mentally, morally, and physically— **the state of each particular child, however, being duly considered**, requiring different training, both as to **methods** and that which is taught

In the Angel states, where Knowledge seems to have its fountain source, as far as earth-lives are concerned, the Angel Teachers know, **What to teach; When to teach.** They know the seed time growth and harvest of those minds (spirits) to whom they are the Guardians and Teachers. They know how to wait for growth, and to foster that growth in all permitted ways, (ways that shall not interfere with true unfoldment from within). The shadows and sunshine, the storms and struggles in earth states are to be outgrown and overcome.

Above and beyond all is

THE LOVE AND WISDOM OF THE ANGELS.

Their state of perfection is the function of their perfect victory; the work they perform is the

REAL WORK OF THE WORLD

Perfect knowledge and the perfect application of that knowledge to the real uses (experiences) of life is The Real Work. The ministration is to the lives in their charge, aiding, waiting for the growth toward and unto Angelhood.

All this, and a thousand times more, was perceived and borne unto the treasure-house of the spirit, to come forth at need in ones own human state, or in aiding others, —as, possibly this writing may do—to **bear** and **do** their part as step by step each one must go on and over the stony, thorny and **upward** way.

THE ANGELIC VISION

Widened, deepened, became more and more surprisingly glorious with the radiance that came from the Higher Angels.

Sphere on Sphere of Orbed Splendors moving upon the Angel and Spirit states of Earth, the radiance ever more and more resplendently bright, the Angelic Beings more and more gloriously perfect.

Far, far in the innermost, the uttermost of all that the awakened Soul could percieve were the

GLORIFIED BEINGS,

the ALL COMPASSIONAL ONES, who wore the garments of Earth in the "Similitude of the sons of men."

Beyond the Arch Angels, could be percieved the

GREAT DIVINE TEACHER
Saying:

"Come unto me, all ye that are weary and heavily laden and I will give you rest."

"A new Commandment I give unto you that ye Love One Another."

"Be ye Perfect even as your Father in Heaven is Perfect."

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